



UNIDAD DE BÚSQUEDA
DE PERSONAS DADAS POR DESAPARECIDAS
SEARCH UNIT
FOR MISSING PERSONS



ENGAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE

***Search Unit
for Missing Persons
(UBPD)* and
Romani People***



PROTOCOLIZED ON JULY 4, 2019

* UBPD, by its acronym in Spanish.



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This Engagement and Relationship Protocol between the UBPD and Romani People was agreed upon within the framework of the prior consultation with the Comprehensive Peace System, carried out in July 2019, between the Comprehensive System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition (SIVJRNR, by its acronym in Spanish) and the Romani People.

In accordance with the above, this illustration respects the final structure of the protocolized document.



Presentation




This Route proposes mechanisms for the Search Unit for Missing Persons (UBPD) in the context of and due to the armed conflict to coordinate the humanitarian and extrajudicial search processes for those belonging to this the Romani People with the Romani People and their representatives.

The prior consultation process undertaken by the Comprehensive System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition made it possible to complement and adjust this route, in accordance with the observations and suggestions made in the eleven Kumpaňy of the national territory.



I. Principles

* For the purposes of designing this Protocol, the UBPD has numbered the document.



The UBPD will carry out humanitarian and extrajudicial searches for missing persons, focusing on their families' participation, since its purpose is to relieve suffering. In this sense, this route is based on the following principles:

Dignification

The UBPD conceives both missing persons and their families as dignified human beings, which means they have a full human and ethical condition that identifies, recognizes and values them without any type of distinction.

Recognizing the Impacts of Disappearance, as well as Resistance in the Search for Missing People

The UBPD gathers the search experience of searchers, giving a place to the pain, impact and psychosocial and physical damage that the disappearance may have caused in their lives. At the same time, it recognizes their abilities to cope and fight to find the missing people and their memories.

Search Experience Recognition

The families of missing people have invaluable experience in searching for their loved ones. This experience must be recognized and used for the benefit of humanitarian and extrajudicial searches, which is the joint development of search plans and the actions surrounding them. Moreover, it must also be used as learning for society, allowing us to value the suffering and human and political capabilities of searchers.

An Attentive and Respectful Relationship

Recognizing and valuing searchers involves unrestricted active and continuous listening, in such a way that their narratives, needs and expectations are given a privileged place, thereby contributing to developing meaning in their stories and experiences. Therefore, the UBPD's method of engagement is attentive and respectful listening.

Responsibility and Honesty

This involves honestly reporting procedures and results that are part of the search, which determines stating

what, how, when and the possible results of the procedures associated with the search clearly and at all times, in order to avoid generating false expectations and, consequently, feelings of frustration in people looking for their loved ones.

Continuous Interactions and Dialogue based on a Pedagogical Relationship

Participation involves continuous interactions and dialogue with the Search Unit, which allows them to know what is happening in the search process from a pedagogical and creative commitment that adds to the wisdom of searchers. This contributes and influences the design and implementation of search plans, taking into account their experiences and knowledge of their territories.

Pluralism

Participation involves continuous interactions and dialogue with the Search Unit, which allows them to know what is happening in the search process from a pedagogical and creative commitment that adds to the wisdom of searchers. This contributes and influences the design and implementation of search plans, taking into account their experiences and knowledge of their territories.

Interculturality

It refers to the type of relationship established with different cultural groups, which allows dialogue between knowledge and practices within the framework of recognition, respect, mutual learning and collective construction. This principle assumes the conception of a relationship that aims to eradicate the logic of dominant/subordinate cultures and seeks to overcome inequality and build bridges, allowing differences to intervene in each part of the relationship.

In developing intercultural relationships, it is essential to take into account the spirituality that runs through people and communities' experiences, which is manifested through their worldview and their practices in the territory. Some of its expressions are framed in the rituals developed through experiences, such as labor, birth, death, music, and others. Therefore, this should be seen as a key element of family members' participation in search processes.

With respect to the engagement and actions of the UYPD to search for missing people belonging to the Romani People, the entity will respect the ethical principles and values of the Romani People, among which are:

- Unity
- Well-being for all: "May we all live well."
- We love and respect family
- We respect life: it translates into the simple command to live and let live.
- We respect freedom and nature.
- We respect the Kriss Romaní, Kumpaňy, Zakono and the identifying elements of the Romani People.
- We do not waste resources.
- We prefer to die with honor than to live dishonorably.
- Our motto is to be happy.
- We respect the value of people's words.
- We appreciate the little things in life.
- We dignify the elderly and glorify sons and daughters.
- We respect people and things that are unknown.
- We are a permanent instrument of peace.
- Above all, we love and respect KA AMARO DEL, our God

II. General Guidelines

1. Differential Ethnic Approach for the Romani People

The UBPD will incorporate the differential ethnic approach in the investigation, analysis, planning, location, prospecting, recovery, identification, dignified delivery, contact and reuniting of missing persons in the context of and due to the armed conflict who belong to ethnic groups, guaranteeing the humanitarian and extrajudicial nature of its mandate. To this end, it will adopt at least at least:

- 1.1** The UBPD will collect, systematize and analyze information on Romani Missing persons in the context of and due to the armed conflict. The methodology for collecting and analyzing information for the search will take into account the uses, customs and worldview of the Romani People, sources of information they use, and the preference for their own methods for collecting information, assuring families the possibility of reliably and fully collecting information.

The UBPD will have the approval of the Kumpañy in the event photographic records, recordings, or dissemination on social networks and mass media are required.

When the UBPD defines the universe of people considered missing due to and in the context

of the armed conflict, the number of people from this ethnic group who were reported missing will be disclosed with the National Dialogue Commission of the Romani People.

- 1.2 In the previous sense, the UBPD will take into account the oral tradition of the Romani People for collecting information in the search for Romani missing persons in the context of and due to the armed conflict.
- 1.3 The UBPD will use research and analysis methodologies for the search that take into account the uses, customs and worldview of the Romani People.
- 1.4 When the whereabouts and full identity of a deceased Romani person reported missing is determined, the UBPD, in coordination with the family and leaders of each Kumpania, will carry out the dignified delivery of the body to their relatives, making sure this procedure especially considers the uses, customs and worldview of the Romani People.
- 1.5 When the whereabouts and full identity of a Romani person reported missing is determined, they are found alive and the reunion with their relatives is appropriate due to consent between the person and their relatives, the UBPD, in coordination with the family

and the leaders of each Kumpania will especially consider the Romani uses, customs and worldview for this procedure.

2. Participation of the Romani People in Searches for Romani Missing Persons

- 2.1 Considering the provisions of article 4 of Decree 2957 of 2010, which issues a regulatory framework for the comprehensive protection of the rights of the Romani or Gypsy ethnic group, the UBPD adopts the definition of cultural identity established therein, as follows:

Cultural identity: One is Romani or Gypsy by patrilineal descent, which allows placing a person in a certain kinship group fundamentally configured around the authority emanating from a man of recognized prestige and knowledge, who, in turn, through different partnerships, is bound to other kinship groups where everyone shares the idea of a common origin, nomadic tradition, language, legal system (the Romani Kriss), authorities, social organization, among other aspects, with respect to a complex system of values and beliefs and a special sense of aesthetics that leads to a strong attachment to individual and collective freedom. These define ethnic borders that distinguish them from other ethnic groups. Notwithstanding patrilineal descent,

the children of a Romani woman and gadzho (non-Gypsy) father living in Kumpaňy will be considered Romani.

In any case, the right to self-recognition will be respected, in the terms provided by constitutional jurisprudence.

- 2.2** The UBPD will coordinate with the families and/or representatives of the Kumpaňy regarding their participation in the search process for missing persons, in accordance with their uses, customs, and worldview, respecting their autonomy in decision-making during the search process.

The following possible forms of participation of the Romani People will be recognized in the UBPD:

- a)** Based on direct requests from relatives of missing persons, respecting their autonomy and guaranteeing confidentiality and privacy.
- b)** Providing relevant information on situations of the disappearance of people who are not part of the Romani People.
- c)** Guiding family members with respect to the possibility of a humanitarian search the UBPD can perform.

- 2.3** In the dialogue for participation, the UBPD will recognize the knowledge and methodologies the Romani People have built from their own search experiences, to act in coherence with them and strive for the dignity of their victims according to their worldview and spirituality.

- 2.4** The UBPD will coordinate the appropriate mechanism to guarantee translating or interpreting the interventions into the Shib Romani (language), if necessary and requested by the Romani People.

- 2.5** The UBPD will respect that the request to search for a Romani person reported missing can only be submitted by members of their household or who are within the following degrees of kinship and consanguinity: spouse, permanent partner, relative within the first-degree of consanguinity (parents and children), first civil of the direct victim (children or adoptive parents). Failing that, there are those who are in the second degree of ascending consanguinity (grandparents). The above is in accordance with the uses, customs and worldview of the Romani People.

- 2.6** In consideration of the nomadic tradition of the Romani People, the UBPD will make sure relatives of Romani missing persons will be able to resort to any of the UBPD headquarters to submit search requests and be guided and advised during the process of searching for their loved ones.

